

The Impertinent Mr. Sukarno

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The responsibilities of tending to the many troubles at home apparently continue to bore Indonesia's President Sukarno.

The other day Sukarno, in an address in Djakarta commemorating the forty-fifth anniversary of the Indonesian Communist Party, advised any Afro-Asian nation with intentions of supporting Malaysia's admission to the June 29 conference in Algiers to stay home instead. And if any should ignore this advice and go to the Afro-Asian conference in spite of it, Sukarno wants them to know that Indonesia's wrath would be severe.

A few days later, the *Observer* of London reported that Sukarno was trying to reshape politics in the Asian kingdom of Laos by offering to supply small arms, ammunition, even a paper factory, for the forces of Laos's neutralist military leader, Gen. Kong Le. According to the *Observer*, the offer quickly was rejected when it came to the ears of Kong Le's boss, Prince Souvanna Phouma, Laos's neutralist Premier.

Sukarno's actions certainly represent impertinent intrusions into his neighbors' affairs. But perhaps it is no more than human nature to try to meddle elsewhere when you can't attend to your own.